

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ADDIS 03265 251018Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 AID-05 EUR-12 TRSE-00
/097 W

-----251107Z 035904 /16

R 2510758Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4137
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 3265

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, ET, SU
SUBJ: SUDANESE CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE ATTACK

REF: A. KHARTOUM 1708, B. PARIS 15234

1. WHILE EMBASSY UNAWARE OF ANY TROUBLE BREWING IN AKOBO
AREA, WE HAVE RECEIVED MISSIONARY REPORTS IN RECENT
MONTHS OF TRIBAL RIVALRIES SPILLING ACROSS BORDER FROM
GAMO GOFFA PROVINCE, AND ETHIOPIANS ARE NOT ABOVE
STIMULATING LOCAL DISPUTES OF THIS KIND. EVEN AT THEIR
WORST, HOWEVER, SUCH INCIDENTS HAVE ONLY IRRITANT VALUE,
AND UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES COULD THEY ESCALATE TO POINT
OF THREATENING STABILITY OF NIMEIRI GOVT. THERE

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ARE PROBABLY NO REGULAR ETHIOPIAN TROOPS IN SOUTHWEST
ETHIOPIA, AND MANY OF PEOPLE'S MILITIA UNITS CURRENTLY
BEING TRAINED IN ADDIS ABABA FROM THOSE REGIONS WILL
PROBABLY NOT RETURN IMMEDIATELY AND WILL BE DEPLOYED
ELSEWHERE WHERE THEY ARE MORE URGENTLY NEEDED.

2. AS FOR NORTHERN BORDER REGION, THERE SEEMS LITTLE DOUBT THAT EPMG WILL SOON STEP UP ITS CAMPAIGN AGAINST EDU IN ATTEMPT TO REGAIN METEMMA AND HUMERA. THERE IS NOT EVIDENCE FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT THAT EPMG PLANNING TO FOLLOW UP ANY FUTURE SUCCESSES AGAINST EDU BY TAKING DIRECT MOVES AGAINST SUDANESE, ALTHOUGH BORDER VIOLATIONS IN HEAT OF BATTLE CANNOT BE EXCLUDED. ON OTHER HAND, ANSARS IN GONDAR PROVINCE ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LIBERALLY SUPPLIED WITH LIBYAN WEAPONS OVER PAST FEW MONTHS, AND THEY MAY STILL BE MAJOR SOURCE OF SUDANESE WORRY. OTHERWISE, INCREASING EPMG PREOCCUPATION WITH SOMALI INFILTRATION ACTIVITY IN OGADEN MAKES LIKELIHOOD OF ATTACK ON SUDAN FROM ETHIOPIA SOIL MORE REMOTE THAN EVER.

3. IN SUM, WHATEVER EVIL INTENTIONS LIBYANS MAY HAVE TOWARD SUDAN, WE DOUBT THEY CAN COUNT ON ETHIOPIANS FOR MORE THAN TOKEN SUPPORT.
TIENKEN

SECRET

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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